

NEWS CLIPPING

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Five years of enriching communities



(From left) Saw, GAB Foundation director Renuka Indrarajah and GAB managing director Charles Ireland checking out photos of the Foundation's past activities.

GUINNESS Anchor Berhad Foundation (GAB Foundation) celebrated its half-decade mark recently, having donated close to RM3 million and reached out to over 16,000 Malaysians through its environmental, educational and community based initiatives.

GAB Foundation chairman Tan Sri Saw Huat Lye said "We are committed to making a difference—to engaging and enriching our communities. We are delighted that we were able to touch thousands of people through our initiatives over the last five years. We would like to thank our partners; non-governmental organisations (NGOs), government agencies and communities for giving us the privilege to work with them."

"Moving forward, we aim to engage with more Malaysians, educating them on the importance of river

conservation. In addition, we will seek new partnerships and collaborations to reach more high needs schools to help enhance English proficiency in schools," Saw continued.

GAB Foundation was set up in 2007 to carry out Guinness Anchor Berhad's corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives in three aforementioned key areas; environment, education and community.

The Foundation, through its Water Project (Working Actively Through Education and Rehabilitation), had worked closely with NGO, Global Environment Centre, local community groups and government agencies to improve the water quality of Sungei Way.

Today, the river that was once 'extremely polluted' (class IV-V water quality rating) is now classified as 'suitable for living organisms' (class III).

In the area of education, the Foundation has initiated the English Programme to promote English proficiency amongst primary school students, especially those studying in rural schools. The Foundation has also donated reading corners to schools and learning centres nationwide.

Furthermore, the Foundation dedicates a full work day for its staff and business partners to participate in its annual 'Big Day Out' where they are able to be directly involved in the company's CSR initiatives.

To date, over 60 community projects have been carried out across Malaysia. Activities include the planting of 200 mangrove tree seedlings in Sepang, conducting basic health screening for village folks in Hulu Selangor and the building of a physical therapy area for a school in Petaling Jaya for children with special needs.